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REMARKS - General

By the above amendments, applicants have amended claims 1-2, and 20.

In the changes made to the claims by the current amendment, ~~deletions are shown by strikethrough~~, and additions are underlined.

The amended claims 1 and 20 are supported by specification in paragraph 0225, among others, stating:

“FIG. 9 shows one aspect of a biodegradable stent 21 for treating vulnerable plaques or target tissue of a patient comprising at least two zones, the supporting zone being made of a first biodegradable material 24; and a second therapeutic zone 23 made of a second biodegradable material 26.....”

The amended claims 1 and 20 are further supported by specification in paragraph 0116, among others, stating:

“In another aspect of the present invention, the target tissue may comprise vulnerable plaque, atherosclerotic plaque, tumor or cancer, brain tissue, vascular vessel or tissue, orthopedic tissue, ophthalmology tissue or the like.”

The amended claim 2 is supported by specification in paragraph 0225, among others, stating:

“.....a biodegradable stent 21 for treating vulnerable plaques or target tissue of a patient comprising at least two zones, wherein a first supporting zone 22A, 22B comprises at least a portion of continuous circumference (indicated by item 25) of the stent 21,.....”

Conclusion and Conditional Request For Constructive Assistance

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore they submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action they respectfully solicit.

Applicants have amended the claims of this application so that they are proper, definite, and define novel structure which is also unobvious. If, for any reason, this application is not believed

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to be in full condition for allowance, applicants respectfully request the constructive assistance (telephone 949-706-1066) and suggestions of the Examiner pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 706.03(d) and § 707.07(j) in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,


Hosheng Tu, applicant

1/17/2005
Date